

III. CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) Machine ~~for sealing containers (1) with a container sealing unit, which is located after a unit (2) for feeding containers to be sealed~~processed by a processing unit, which comprises an accumulation conveyor (3) located upstream of the ~~sealing processing unit~~ and driven by motor means (8) and a feeder conveyor (4), which feeds containers to the accumulation conveyor (3) and driven by motor means (13), ~~characterized in that it~~wherein the machine further comprises a first sensor (5) ~~preferably in the end-zone (6) of adjacent the feeder conveyor (4), for detecting, preferably the front edge (7), of the container (1) and preferably detection means (9) to detect the speed of motion of the feeder conveyor (4) and that the first sensor (5) and preferably the detection means (9) are connected to a control unit, which controls the motor means (8) such that the desired gap (11) is created between two adjacent containers (1) on the accumulation conveyor (3) and that the speed of the accumulation conveyor (3) and of the feeder conveyor (4) are synchronized during at least a partial handling over of the container (1) from the feeder conveyor (4) to the accumulation conveyor (3).~~

2. (Currently Amended) Machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in, that comprises~~wherein the machine further comprises a second sensor (10) upstream of the first sensor, which detects the distance (12) between two containers on the feeder conveyor (4).

3. (Currently Amended) Machine according to claim 2 ~~characterized in, that~~wherein the second sensor (10) is connected

to the control unit, which reduces the speed of the feeder conveyor (4) if the distance (12) of two containers on the feeder conveyor (4) is significantly smaller than the minimum gap needed for the handover of ~~tray-container 1~~ before ~~tray-container 1~~ is coming to the handover position as well.

4. (Currently Amended) Machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in, that~~wherein the motor means (8, 13) are servo motors.

5. (Currently Amended) Machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in, that~~wherein the feeder conveyor (4) operates at continuous or random speed.

6. (Currently Amended) Machine according to claim 1, ~~characterized in, that it comprises~~further comprising pusher arms, ~~which can be~~ detachably associated with multiple containers on the accumulation conveyor (3) to transfer the containers (1) to the ~~sealing~~processing unit.

7. (Currently Amended) Machine according to claim 6, ~~characterized in, that~~wherein the transfer is carried out while the accumulation conveyor (3) stands still.

8. (New) A machine according to claim 1, wherein the first sensor (5) is in the end-zone (6) of the feeder conveyor (4), detecting, the front edge (7), of the container (1).

9. (New) A machine according to claim 8, further comprising a detection means (9) to detect the speed of motion of the feeder conveyor (4) and that the first sensor (5) and preferably the

detection means (9) are connected to the control unit, which controls the motor means (8).